

**Expedition to Annapurna II**

\*481. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:  
Shri Prabhat Kar:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that members of the Indian Army are participating with the British and the Nepalese armies in a mountaineering expedition to Annapurna II; and

(b) what are the details of the scheme?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Expedition consists of 6 members from the United Kingdom, 3 from India and 2 from Nepal. Due to illness, one of the Indian members has had to drop out. The Expedition is being led by Lt.-Colonel Roberts, who is at present Military Attache in the United Kingdom Embassy in Khatmandu. The members of the Expedition are gathered in Khatmandu and will make an attempt on Annapurna II in May 1960.

Most of the cost of the Expedition is being borne by the United Kingdom Committee. India's responsibility is to provide transportation charges for the move of the United Kingdom members from Bombay to Khatmandu and, back, medical cover for the Expedition and some of the rations for the Sherpas. These are being met from non-governmental funds. Some items of equipment have been given on loan to the Expedition by Government in the Ministry of Defence.

**Hindi Teachers' Training Colleges**

\*482. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri Subodh Hansda:  
Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Starred Question No. 225 on the 23rd November, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the details for starting two Hindi Teachers' Training Colleges have been finalised; and

(b) if so, what they are?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). The Andhra Pradesh Government have already started a Hindi teachers training course at the Government Basic Training School, Khairatabad, Hyderabad and training is at present being given to 40 Hindi teachers. A grant of Rs. 15,020 has been sanctioned to the State Government in December, 1959 for the expansion of the training course. The Government of Mysore have intimated their decision to start a Government Hindi Shikshaka Training College at Gulbarga in 1960-61.

**Gold Bonds Scheme**

\*483. { Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Shri Pangarkar:  
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 202 on the 23rd November, 1959 and state the progress since made so far in finalisation of the Gold Bonds Scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): It has been decided that, in the present circumstances, the proposal for the mobilisation of gold by the issue of gold bonds need not be pursued.

**'Palam Airport'**

\*484. { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:  
Shri S. A. Mehdi:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an increase in air traffic at Palam?